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WASHINGTON, DC—Congressman Peter DeFazio (D-Ore.) voted today for H. Con. Res. 63, which opposes the president's proposal for a troop surge in Iraq. The resolution passed by a 246 to 182 vote.

"I voted in favor of today's resolution because I oppose escalation of the president's failing strategy in Iraq," DeFazio said. "Today's bipartisan vote sends a strong signal to the Bush administration that it must seriously rethink its plan for Iraq.

"Instead of an escalation, we must announce a timeline negotiated with the Iraqi government to bring our troops home over the next six months to a year. Our troops have done all that has been asked of them in Iraq. Saddam Hussein is dead. His allies are on the run or in prison. The threat from WMDs in Iraq is nonexistent. The war that Congress authorized has been won. Our troops should come home. Congress did not authorize U.S. troops to referee a civil war in Iraq."

The full text of the speech is available on Rep. DeFazio's website at <http://www.defazio.house.gov/index.php?option=content&task=view&id=264>

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A video of the floor statement is also available on Rep. DeFazio's website at http://www.defazio.house.gov/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=117&Itemid

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